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# HOUSE BILL No. 1631

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 12-7-2; IC 12-31.

**Synopsis:** Restrictions on public benefits to illegal aliens. Prohibits a state agency or political subdivision from providing federal, state, or local public benefits to a person who is not: (1) a United States citizen; (2) a legal permanent resident; or (3) otherwise lawfully present in the United States under federal law. Requires that after June 30, 2008, a state agency or a political subdivision must verify the lawful presence of each individual in the United States who: (1) is at least 18 years of age; and (2) applies for federal, state, or local public benefits administered by the agency or political subdivision. Requires a state agency or a political subdivision to: (1) verify the lawful presence of the person by requiring the person to execute a verified affidavit stating that the person is a United States citizen, a legal permanent resident, or otherwise lawfully present in the United States under federal law; (2) provide an annual report with respect to the agency's or political subdivision's compliance with the verification requirements; (3) verify the lawful presence of certain individuals through the Systematic Alien Verification of Entitlements (SAVE) program; and (4) report errors and significant delays in the SAVE program. Provides that: (1) a state agency or political subdivision may provide variations of the verification of lawful presence requirements; and (2) a person who makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement of representation in an affidavit verifying lawful presence commits welfare fraud or Medicaid fraud.

**Effective:** July 1, 2007.

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January 23, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Interstate and International Cooperation.

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Introduced

First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1631

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning human services.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 12-7-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2006,  
2 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 9. "Agency" means the following:

4 (1) For purposes of IC 12-10-12, the meaning set forth in  
5 IC 12-10-12-1.

6 (2) For purposes of IC 12-12.7-2, the meaning set forth in  
7 IC 12-12.7-2-1.

8 **(3) For purposes of IC 12-31-1, the meaning set forth in**  
9 **IC 12-31-1-1.**

10 SECTION 2. IC 12-7-2-76.6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
11 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 76.6. **(a)** "Emergency  
12 medical condition", for purposes of IC 12-15-12, has the meaning set  
13 forth in IC 12-15-12-0.3.

14 **(b) "Emergency medical condition", for purposes of IC 12-31-1,**  
15 **has the meaning set forth in IC 12-31-1-2.**

16 SECTION 3. IC 12-7-2-85.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
17 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY

2007

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1, 2007]: **Sec. 85.1. "Federal public benefit", for purposes of IC 12-31-1, has the meaning set forth in IC 12-31-1-3.**

SECTION 4. IC 12-7-2-142 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 142. "Political subdivision", for purposes of the following statutes, has the meaning set forth in IC 36-1-2-13:**

(1) IC 12-8.

(2) IC 12-13-4.

**(3) IC 12-31-1.**

SECTION 5. IC 12-7-2-169.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 169.7. "SAVE program", for purposes of IC 12-31-1, has the meaning set forth in IC 12-31-1-4.**

SECTION 6. IC 12-7-2-185.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 185.5. "State or local public benefit", for purposes of IC 12-31-1, has the meaning set forth in IC 12-31-1-5.**

SECTION 7. IC 12-31 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]:

## **ARTICLE 31. RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC BENEFITS**

### **Chapter 1. Restrictions on Public Benefits to Illegal Aliens**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "agency" means any state administration, agency, authority, board, bureau, commission, committee, council, department, division, institution, office, service, or other similar body of state government.**

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "emergency medical condition" has the meaning set forth in 42 U.S.C. 1396b(v)(3).**

**Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "federal public benefit" has the meaning set forth in 8 U.S.C. 1611.**

**Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "SAVE program" means the Systematic Alien Verification of Entitlements program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or a successor program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security.**

**Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "state or local public benefit" has the meaning set forth in 8 U.S.C. 1621.**

**Sec. 6. This chapter shall be enforced without regard to race, religion, gender, ethnicity, or national origin.**

**Sec. 7. Except as provided under section 9 of this chapter or federal law, an agency or a political subdivision may not provide**

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1 federal public benefits or state or local public benefits to a person  
2 who is not:

- 3 (1) a United States citizen;
- 4 (2) a legal permanent resident; or
- 5 (3) otherwise lawfully present in the United States under  
6 federal law.

7 Sec. 8. Except as provided under section 9 of this chapter or  
8 federal law, after June 30, 2008, an agency or a political  
9 subdivision shall verify, in the manner provided under section 10  
10 of this chapter, the lawful presence of each individual in the United  
11 States who:

- 12 (1) is at least eighteen (18) years of age; and
- 13 (2) applies for:

- 14 (A) federal public benefits; or
- 15 (B) state or local public benefits;

16 that are administered by the agency or political subdivision;  
17 before the agency or political subdivision may provide federal  
18 public benefits or state or local public benefits to the individual.

19 Sec. 9. An agency or a political subdivision is not required to  
20 meet the requirements under sections 7 and 8 of this chapter for  
21 any of the following:

- 22 (1) A purpose for which lawful presence in the United States  
23 is not required by law, ordinance, or regulation.
- 24 (2) Assistance for health care items and services that are  
25 necessary for the treatment of an emergency medical  
26 condition of the person involved and are not related to an  
27 organ transplant procedure.
- 28 (3) Short term, noncash, in-kind emergency disaster relief.
- 29 (4) Public health assistance for:
  - 30 (A) immunizations with respect to a disease that may be  
31 immunized; and
  - 32 (B) testing and treatment of symptoms of communicable  
33 diseases regardless of whether symptoms are caused by a  
34 communicable disease.
- 35 (5) Programs, services, or assistance, including soup kitchens,  
36 crisis counseling and intervention, and short term shelter,  
37 specified by the United States Attorney General in the United  
38 States Attorney General's sole and unreviewable discretion  
39 after consultation with appropriate federal agencies and  
40 departments, that:
  - 41 (A) deliver in-kind services at the community level,  
42 including services through public or private nonprofit

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agencies;

(B) do not condition the:

(i) provision of assistance;

(ii) amount of assistance provided; or

(iii) cost of assistance provided;

on a recipient's income or resources; and

(C) are necessary for the protection of life or safety.

(6) Prenatal care.

Sec. 10. An agency or a political subdivision shall verify the lawful presence of a person described under section 8 of this chapter by requiring the person to execute a verified affidavit stating that the person is:

(1) a United States citizen;

(2) a legal permanent resident; or

(3) otherwise lawfully present in the United States under federal law.

Sec. 11. (a) If a person executes an affidavit stating that the person is an alien lawfully present in the United States under section 10 of this chapter, an agency or a political subdivision shall verify the lawful presence of the person to determine eligibility for federal public benefits or state or local public benefits through the SAVE program.

(b) An affidavit executed under section 10 of this chapter may be presumed to be proof of lawful presence of a person under this chapter until eligibility is verified under this section.

Sec. 12. An agency or a political subdivision shall report any errors or significant delays by the SAVE program to the:

(1) United States Department of Homeland Security; and

(2) secretary of state.

Sec. 13. An agency or a political subdivision may adopt a variation of the requirements under this chapter to:

(1) improve the efficiency of verifying lawful presence of a person under this chapter;

(2) reduce delay in verifying lawful presence of a person under this chapter; or

(3) provide for adjudication of unique individual circumstances in which the procedures under this chapter would impose unusual hardship on a legal resident of Indiana.

Sec. 14. A person who knowingly or intentionally makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement of representation in an affidavit executed under section 10 of this chapter commits a violation of IC 35-43-5-7 or IC 35-43-5-7.1.

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1       **Sec. 15. Each agency or political subdivision that administers a**  
2       **program that provides federal public benefits or state or local**  
3       **public benefits shall provide an annual written report with respect**  
4       **to the agency's or political subdivision's compliance with this**  
5       **chapter to the legislative services agency in an electronic format**  
6       **under IC 5-14-6.**

7       **Sec. 16. An agency may adopt rules and a political subdivision**  
8       **may adopt an ordinance or a resolution to carry out the**  
9       **requirements of this chapter.**

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